Abolition of posts in the Department of Food

654. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD and CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to State :

(a) whether with a view to imposing 5 per cent cut in the expendutire of a sizeable number of posts in the Department of Food and its attached offices in the lower cadres are proposed to be abolished ;

(b) if so, what are the number of posts (*category-wise*) proposed to be abolished and whether these include the posts lying unfilled for more than six months;

(c) what are the estimated savings likely to be effected as a result thereof; and

(d) in what manner the surplus staff is proposed to be deployed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) With a view to effecting economy in expenditure, 157 posts have been identified as surplus in the Department of Food and its offices, and are to be abolshed. A tentative category-wise break-down is given below :

Category	No. of posts to be abolished
Group 'A'	14
Group 'B'	47
Group 'C'	80
Group 'D'	16

These posts include posts which have been lying vacant for more than six months.

(c) The likely annual savings on this account is estimated at about Rs. 30 lakhs.

(d) The department is examining the possibilities of redeployment of the staff that would be rendered surplus.

Elections of the office bearers and Board of Directors of NCCF

655. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Election scheduled for 21st March, 1986, for the office bearers and Board of Directors of NCCF had been postponed/cancelled at the last movement; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) No. Sir, According to the byelaws of the N.C.C.F. the Board of Directors shall consist of one representative, each of 31 state level federations, 3 nominees of the Government of India, one nominee each of National Cooperative Union of India, National Cooperative Development Corporation and National Agricultral Cooperative Marketing Feederation of India, 9 Directors to be elected by the wholesale primary consumer stores amongst themselves and one director elected by the recognised consumer cooperatives in the Union Territories, besides, the Managing Director and 2 eminent cooperators or economists or management experts who may be coopted. In accordance with the byelaws, 9 Directors amongst the wholesale and primary consumer stores and 1 Director amongst the recognised Apex Consumer Cooperatives in the Union Territories were elected to the Board, of N.C.C.F. in the election conducted on 21-3-1986 by the Returning Officer appointed

by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies. As per the provisions contained in Rule 28 of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Rules, 1985 as soon as the members of the Board have been elected the Returning Officer shall convene a meeting of the newly elected members of the Board for the purpose of election of the office bearers. The Returning Officer has informed the members of the N.C.C.F. that the meeting of the newly reconstituted board will be convened shortly.

Framing of New Labour Policy

656. SHRI KAPIL VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are framing a new labour policy if so, what are the objectives behind it and what are the broad outlines thereof ; and

(b) by when it is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The basic principles to be followed in our labour policy are already laid down in the Directive Principles of State Policy. These principles have inspired our labour legislations from time to time. The labour laws have also been amended from time to time in keeping with these principles. The labour policy and its implementation is also reflected in the plan document and Annual Report of the Ministry.

Legislation to regular hotel Indusry

657. SHRI KAPIL VERMA : Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward a suitable legislation to regulate the hotel industry in order to prevent fleecing of the tourists; if so, when and what are its salient features; and

(b) what are the reasons for which Government have not declassified hotels in the event of deterioration of facilities to the tourists and other guests?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (Shri H K L Bhagat) : (a) there is no proposal under considertion of the Government to bring about a legis ation to regulate the hotel industry at present. However, under the regulatory conditions already prescribed by the Department of Tourism the tariff of approved hotels is fixed by the Department according to an accepted formula which ensures that tariff charged by such hotels remains within reasonable limits.

(b) The Department of Tourism periodically inspect the classified hotels to ensure that they maintain the prescribed standards of services and facilities. In the case of hotels where the standards are found to have deteriorated during the inspection, they are given a reasonable opportunity to bring about the desired improvements within a stipulated period failing which they are down-graded or declassified.

Safety measures in industries

658. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government so far to improve safety measures in industries and what is the response of the State Governments thereto;

(b) what guidelines have been given to the factories to prevent accidents like Bhopal disaster; and

(c) what are the details of the Data Bank-cum-information Centre Scheme prepared by the Labour Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The responsibility for enforcement of the Factories Act, 1948 lies with the State governments. They have been